

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Elisha Riggs Houseand/or common Pleasant Valley Farm

2. Location

street & number 5210 Damascus Rd.

___ not for publication

city, town Laytonsville

___ vicinity of

congressional district

1st

state

Maryland

county

Montgomery

3. Classification

Category

___ district

☒ building(s)

___ structure

___ site

___ object

Ownership

___ public

☒ private

___ both

Public Acquisition

___ in process

___ being considered

___ not applicable

Status
☒ occupied

___ unoccupied

___ work in progress

Accessible

___ yes: restricted

___ yes: unrestricted

☒ no
Present Use

___ agriculture

___ commercial

___ educational

___ entertainment

___ government

___ industrial

___ military

___ museum

___ park

☒ private residence

___ religious

___ scientific

___ transportation

___ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Drew & Patrica Stablerstreet & number 5210 Damascus Rd.

telephone no.:

city, town

Gaithersburg

state and zip code

Maryland, 20760

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Court Houseliber 3211

street & number

folio 288

city, town

Rockvillestate Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title MNCPPC Historic Sites Inventorydate 1976___ federal ☒ state ☒ county ___ localdepository for survey records Park Historian's Office

city, town

Rockvillestate Maryland

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	<div>(Check One)</div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed </div>
	<div>(Check One)</div> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered </div> <div> <div>(Check One)</div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site </div> </div>
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>The house is a frame building with a three-bay, main (north) facade. The central doorway has a wide transom light and sidelights. The flanking windows are 6/9 double hung sash, extending to the porch floor; the second floor windows are 6/6 double hung sash. All of the openings have low, pedimented heads with a crown moulding along the sides of the pediments. At either end are semi-internal chimneys.</p> <p>The present siding is aluminum and the chimneys have been rebuilt.</p>	

3. Significance

Survey No.

M:23-16

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates circa. 1876 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/orApplicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ GLevel of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Elisha Riggs farmhouse is significant as an example of vernacular architecture typical to that constructed in Montgomery County from the mid-nineteenth through the early twentieth centuries. In addition, the Riggs family was among the early settlers to the area. The house is believed to have been built by Elisha Riggs, an area farmer, about 1876.¹ The house was built on land given to Elisha by his father, Samuel, in his will dated June of 1880.² Samuel had purchased the land, 233 3/4 acres of tracts referred to as "Rural Plains" and "Tusculum" for \$5025.62 in a trustee sale involving the Griffith family in 1868.³ Elisha's farm, before it was sold in 1936,⁴ included a frame dwelling house with outbuildings constructed of log.

In September of 1936, Elisha's wife, Mary, (Elisha himself had since passed away) and their daughter Nannie sold the farm, as directed by Elisha's will, so that the proceeds could be divided amongst the heirs (a wife and seven children).⁵ The farm was purchased by Amanda and Bige Seal, also farmers, for \$5500.⁶ At the time of the Seal's purchase the farm was in bad shape. The dwelling house and the log outbuildings were in a leaky, dilapidated condition. In addition, since the death of Elisha, the farm had not been producing an income sufficient to pay for its upkeep.⁷ The Seal farm included a 15 room frame dwelling house with a tin roof. The house had an attic and a basement and was heated by fireplace and stove. Also included on the property was a four room tenant house with a tin roof and a barn.⁸

In 1947, Bige died leaving the entire estate to Amanda. Amanda lived on the farm until her death in 1960. She died intestate, leaving ten children and six grandchildren, too many heirs to split the property, especially considering the limited buildings on the property and the limited frontage to the road. Therefore, the property was sold to one of Amanda and Bige's daughters, Dixie, and her husband, William Smoot.⁹ In May of 1962 the Smoots sold the house to Stan-

* see attachment sheet A

Attachment sheet A
Elisha Riggs House

ley Stabler et al, who in April of 1964 conveyed the house to its present owners, William Drew and Patrica Stabler. The house now sits on a 7.69 acre lot.¹⁰

¹Date is based on the date that the house appears in the Tax Assessment records with improvements, and its appearance on the Hopkins Atlas of 1878.

²Will RWC 6/306, Mont. Co. Register of Wills.

³Deed EBP 5/463, Mont. Co. Land Records.

⁴Equity HGC 18/21, Mont. Co. Judgement Records.

⁵Will HCA 26/190, Mont. Co. Register of Wills.

⁶Equity HGC 18/21, Mont. Co. Judgement Records.

⁷Equity #23092, Mont. Co. Central Files.

⁸Ibid.

⁹Ibid.

¹⁰Deed 3211/288, Mont. Co. Land Records.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. M:23-16

Mont. Co. Judgement Records
Mont Co. Register of Wills
Mont. Co. Land Records

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 7.69 acres

Quadrangle name

Quadrangle scale

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Catherine Crawford

organization Mont. Co. Hist. Preservation Comm. date 8/82

street & number telephone

city or town Rockville state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

161522504

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET
NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON: Pleasant Valley Farm				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Elisha Riggs House				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: 5210 Damascus Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Laytonsville				
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY: Montgomery	
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Progress <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment		<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum		<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: W. Drew Stabler				
STREET AND NUMBER: Damascus Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Laytonsville			STATE: Maryland	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Montgomery County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Rockville			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: None				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	

M:23-16

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Uncolored	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house is a frame building with a three-bay, main (north) facade. The central doorway has a wide transom light and sidelights. The flanking windows are 6/9 double hung sash, extending to the porch floor; the second floor windows are 6/6 double hung sash. All of the openings have low, pedimented heads with a crown moulding along the sides of the pediments. At either end are semi-internal chimneys.

The present siding is aluminum and the chimneys have been rebuilt.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian

☐ 16th Century

☐ 18th Century

☐ 20th Century

☐ 15th Century

☐ 17th Century

☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

☐ Prehistoric

☐ Historic

☐ Agriculture

☐ Architecture

☐ Art

☐ Commerce

☐ Communications

☐ Conservation

☐ Education

☐ Engineering

☐ Industry

☐ Invention

☐ Landscape

☐ Architecture

☐ Literature

☐ Military

☐ Music

☐ Political

☐ Religion/Phi-

losophy

☐ Science

☐ Sculpture

☐ Social/Human-

itarian

☐ Theater

☐ Transportation

☐ Urban Planning

☐ Other (Specify)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

M:23-16

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

7 Nov 74

STREET AND NUMBER:

8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

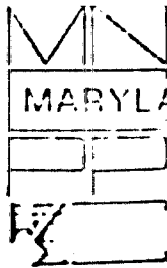
12.

State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature



M:23-16

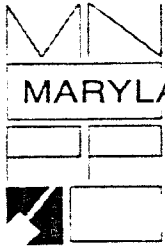
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

See correspondence dated April 8, 1987

ACTION TAKEN

The following sites will be removed from the
Locational Atlas.

23/1	23/28	23/96
23/2	23/32	23/98
23/3	23/43	
23/4	23/44	*23/98-3
*23/5	*23/50	23/99
		23/107-2
23/10	23/52	*23/110
*23/14	23/55	23/113
23/16	23/56	23/114
	23/59	
23/20		
23/22	23/61	
	23/74	23/116
23/25		
	23/88	23/117



THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION
8787 Georgia Avenue • Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3760

M: 23/16
RECEIVED

MEMORANDUM

March 21, 1986 MAR 24 1986

MARYLAND HISTORICAL
TRUST

TO: Richard Ferrara, Director
Department of Housing and Community Development
John L. Menke, Director
Department of Environmental Protection
✓ J. Rodney Little, Director
State Historic Preservation Office
Philip Cantelon, Chairperson
Historic Preservation Commission

FROM: Melissa C. Banach, Coordinator
Community Planning North *MB*

SUBJECT: Preliminary Draft Amendment to the Master Plan for
Historic Preservation: Northern and Eastern
Montgomery County Resources

I am pleased to transmit to you this Preliminary Draft
Amendment to the Master Plan for Historic Preservation:
Northern and Eastern Montgomery County Resources.

This document contains the recommendations of the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission on approximately 80 historic sites located in the Olney, Sandy Spring, Aspen Hill, and Burtonsville areas of the County.

The Montgomery County Planning Board will hold a public hearing on this Preliminary Draft Amendment on Monday, April 21, 1986, at 7:30 P.M., in the Auditorium of the Montgomery Regional Office at 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland.

Should you have any questions concerning this specific Preliminary Draft Amendment, please do not hesitate to contact Marty Reinhart at 495-4565.

MCB:MR:dws
Attachment

PRELIMINARY DRAFT

AMENDMENT TO THE APPROVED AND ADOPTED
MASTER PLAN FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION IN
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

NORTHERN AND EASTERN
MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC RESOURCES

Including sites located in the Olney, Sandy Spring,
Aspen Hill, Norbeck and Burtonsville Areas

March 1986

An amendment to the 1980 Olney Master Plan, 1980 Sandy Spring/
Ashton Special Study Plan, 1970 Aspen Hill Master Plan, and the
1981 Eastern Montgomery County Master Plan; being also an
amendment to the General Plan for the Physical Development of the
Maryland-Washington Regional District and to the Master Plan of
Highways within Montgomery County, Maryland.

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3760

14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-3090

APPENDIX A

SITES NOT RECOMMENDED FOR REGULATION UNDER THE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION ORDINANCE CHAPTER 24A OF THE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY CODE

The following sites have been reviewed by the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission and were found not to merit designation of the Master Plan for Historic Preservation. If not included in the Master Plan, these resources may be removed from the Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites in Montgomery County. If removed from the Locational Atlas, the sites will no longer be governed by the Moratorium on Alteration and Demolition, Section 24A-10 of the County's Historic Preservation Ordinance. The sites will, however, remain on the Maryland Historical Trust's Inventory.

The following sites were found by the Preservation Commission to be too greatly altered from the period of their architectural or historical significance or not to meet Ordinance criteria for designation.

<u>Atlas #</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Location</u>
15/31	Tyson House (Mrs. W. Chandlee House)	18600 Brooke Rd., Ashton
13/32	Brinklow Store & Post Office	18930 New Hampshire Ave. Brinklow
15/40	Rawlings Mill House	1820 Tucker Lane, Ashton
15/44	Pat Cuff House	1515 Ednor Rd., Ednor
15/48	Chimney Ruins	Oak Hill Rd.-North of Rt. 198, Spencerville
15/51	Drayton	16000 Oak Hill Road, Silver Spring
15/57	Murphy Ford Log House	16500 Block of Batson Rd., Spencerville
15/70	Harriet Lea House	18900 New Hampshire Ave., Brinklow
23/1	Gaither/Gray House	24241 Hipsley Mill Rd., Gaithersburg
23/2	Leamon/Faucett House	24405 Hipsley Mill Road, Gaithersburg
23/3	Dennis Thomas House	24501 Hipsley Mill Road, Laytonsville

M. 23-16

<u>Atlas #</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Location</u>
23/4	Griffith-Hawkins House (Windcrest Farm)	6630 Damascus Road, Laytonsville
23/10	William Belt House	23511 Howard Chapel Rd, Brookeville
23/16	Elisha Riggs House	5210 Damascus Road, Laytonsville
23/20	Ulysses Griffith House	6001 Griffith Road, Laytonsville
23/22	Crow's Content	6410 Sundown Road, Laytonsville
23/25	Walter Magruder House	6201 Olney-Laytonsville Road, Laytonsville
23/28	E.R. Griffith House	6121 Sundown Road, Laytonsville
23/32	Worthington Tenant House	4201 Sundown Road, Laytonsville
23/43	Frank Brown House	22015 Georgia Avenue, Brookeville
23/44	Bushrod Gartrell House	22000 Georgia Avenue, Brookeville
23/52	Fletcher Veitch Farmhouse	5211 Brookeville Road, Laytonsville
23/55	Spring Garden	4700 Brookeville Road, Brookeville
23/56	Melwood (Captain Strain House)	19715 Zion Rd., Olney
23/59	Locust Hill	4415 Brookeville Road, Brookeville
23/61	Locust Grove II	3415 Brookeville Road Brookeville
23/73	Gittings Ha Ha	21030 New Hampshire Ave., Brookeville
23/74	Log Tenant House	21020 New Hampshire Avenue, Brookeville
23/88	George Stabler Farmhouse	101 Haviland Mill Road, Brinklow



NAME ELISHA RIGGS HOUSE (1878)
LOCATION DAMASCUS RD UNITY, Md.
FACADE N
PHOTO TAKEN 11/7/74 MDWYER